Commonalities Found in Some Intentional Pesticide Misuse Investigations

- 1. Landowners/Tenants/Caretakers have a vested interest in "protecting" some form of captive bred released wildlife, or domestic animals (i.e. mallard ducks, pheasants, rabbits, fighting roosters), aquacultural products (fish, koi, crawfish) or livestock (sheep, calves) from a perceived depredation (hawks/owls/wading birds/coyotes/fox/raccoons)
- 2. Defendants opt to utilize cheaper, less manpower intensive methodologies such as poisoned baits rather than legal means such as hunting, trapping or exclusionary devices.
- 3. Defendants are part of a community in which word of mouth has spread the gospel of utilizing a particular compound for addressing predation problems, usually a regionally identified compound which has proven to be have been successful at tackling a particular "problem", i.e. carbofuran/thimet/strychnine/warbex. Quote from a Virginia agricultural government representative: "Everybody around here knows how to take care of a fox problem, you just pour carbofuran around the mouth of the den and...wait.!"
- 4. Defendants have access to compounds via legal acquisition methods such as licensed applicators, chemical deals or through animal damage control representatives.
- 5. In that known application rates are unknown for misapplication, "if a little bit will kill something, a triple dose will surely take care of my problem". This is manifested by kills with a large number of diverse victimes and a circle of death with secondary/tertiary and even quadutiary victims over a large expanse of territory.